



**Maryland Department of Housing  
And Community Development**

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**Maryland Department of Housing and Community  
Development**

**Division of  
Neighborhood Revitalization**

**Fiscal Year 2020  
REQUEST FOR  
APPLICATIONS OF INTEREST  
For  
Project C.O.R.E.**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:**

**Friday, August 10, 2018 at 12:00pm (noon)**



## ***Project C.O.R.E.*** **(Baltimore City only)**

### **Available Funding:**

**\*\*To Be Determined as part of FY 2020 Budget\*\***

### **Eligible Applicants:**

**City of Baltimore**

**Nonprofit Community Development Organizations**

### **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:**

**Friday, August 10, 2018 at 12:00pm (noon)**

#### **Application of Interest**

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) would like to gauge the need for Project C.O.R.E. funding as we work to develop budget priorities. This Application of Interest can form the basis of future full applications should FY2020 funding become available. While the completion of an Application of Interest will not be an eligibility requirement to seek FY2020 funds, the Department is kindly requesting that you complete the FY2020 Application of Interest if you have any projects for which you may consider seeking Project C.O.R.E. funds in the future.

#### **Project C.O.R.E. General Description**

Project C.O.R.E. – Creating Opportunities for Renewal and Enterprise – is a State initiative to eliminate blight in Baltimore City and make the way for new green space, new affordable and mixed use housing, and new and greater opportunities for businesses to innovate and grow. The initiative is a partnership between the State and the City of Baltimore to create safer and healthier communities for all residents.

#### **Project C.O.R.E Goals**

Project C.O.R.E. aims to spur renewal of Baltimore City communities through the following goals:

Goal 1: Eliminating blight through strategic building demolition and stabilization.

Goal 2: Improving economic opportunity and quality of life.

Goal 3: Encouraging new investment through private financing and other incentives.

### **Eligible Applicants**

There are two types of eligible applicants for this Application of Interest: City of Baltimore agencies and nonprofit Community Development Organizations (CDOs) working in Baltimore City. A CDO is a nonprofit organization which operates for the purpose of improving the physical, economic, or social environment of a specific geographic area, including one or more City neighborhoods.

### **Eligible and Priority Activities:**

Project C.O.R.E. funds may be used for costs associated with eliminating blight within designated Sustainable Communities in the City of Baltimore. *Priority communities for blight elimination are those within the F, G, H, I and J designations of the 2017 Baltimore City Housing Market Typology. Specific eligible activities are listed below, but the highest priority activity for C.O.R.E. funding is the elimination of blight through building demolition, deconstruction or stabilization.*

1. Acquisition – cost associated with purchasing vacant buildings and/or land. Properties may be owned by private or public entities. Related-party acquisitions will be subject to additional review by DHCD.
2. Demolition – cost to demolish blighted structures.
3. Stabilization – cost to complete structural and other critical repairs necessary to stabilize an existing structure, remove any materials that will not be used in the completed project, remove hazardous materials (e.g. asbestos, lead paint, etc.) and other costs approved by DHCD that are associated with preparing a currently vacant structure for redevelopment.
4. Site Development – cost to prepare a vacant site for new construction activities, including the removal of unsuitable soils/fill, hazardous materials, and the installation of new infrastructure (off-site and on-site).
5. Architectural and Engineering – cost of architectural and engineering professional services directly associated with the project.

Other overarching priorities are for projects that build upon existing community strengths, such as:

- Proximity to 21<sup>st</sup> Century School investments.
- Proximity to Anchor Institutions (Universities and Hospitals).
- Proximity to other major investments, such as major rental preservation projects such as RAD.
- Proximity to transit and transit-oriented development
- Implementation of recent or new comprehensive plans, such as the City's new Green Network Plan.
- Reuse of landmark historic buildings.
- Projects that build upon and expand residential market strength, including homeownership.
- Projects that create significant construction jobs or permanent jobs for local residents

### **Project C.O.R.E. Examples:**

Many development outcomes are possible using C.O.R.E and complementary funding, including but not limited to:

- Preparation of lots for development, through land assemblage, demolition and/or site development.
- Stabilization leading to redevelopment, with a focus on specific blocks and neighborhoods. For example, stabilization of scattered vacant properties on a block of majority occupied housing.
- Stabilization of historic or contributing buildings, making them ready for rehabilitation.
- Predevelopment that expands housing opportunities for people of all economic backgrounds.
- Site assemblage by land trust entity for permanent affordable housing development.
- Site assemblage by land trust entity for open space, recreation and/or habitat preservation.
- Opportunities for urban agriculture and community managed green space, or other potentially interim uses.

### **Mandatory Online Submission of Application of Interest (AOI)**

The FY2020 Strategic Demolition Fund Baltimore City Project C.O.R.E **Application of Interest** can be accessed using the Department's online grants management system – [DHCD Project Portal](#).

***\*\* If this is your first time applying to a State Revitalization Funding Program, contact your regional project manager to verify eligibility and authorize access to the system.***

### **Application of Interest Guidance**

The FY2020 Project CORE Application of Interest is requesting that you provide the information below in the online grants management system.

- [Application Information](#) – Project Name, Applicant Contact Information
- [Project/Program Details](#) – Provide as much information as available to you at this time.
- [Additional Address Information](#) – Provide as many details, per project address, as currently available.
- [Project/Program Scope](#) – Describe the project/program that will be seeking Project CORE funds (if available), the community need that the project will address and what measureable outcomes the project will achieve.
- [Proposed Project/Program Timeline](#) - Describe when you anticipate this project could realistically begin, should funding become available, and any potential barriers that could cause delays.
- [Proposed Project/Program Budget](#) - Provide the estimated funding request, other potential or existing sources of funds and the total estimated project cost.
- [Project/Program Financing](#) - Provide a description of how you estimated the project budget and activities.
- [Application Authorization and Submission](#) – Provide the name of the person authorized to submit this application of interest. Then, click SAVE button. Once this information is saved, you will be able to click on the “Verify the Submission” button. After you click on the “Verify Submission” button, you will be directed to another page where you will be asked to click a “Confirm Submission” button. Once the submission is successfully completed, you will receive a confirmation email from the system.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information about the application process, please contact your regional project manager. The regional project manager map and contact list can be found on the next page.

**DIVISION OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION, STATE REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS**  
**REGIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS, Baltimore Region**

**REGION 1:**

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